
South Dakota Department of Education
Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting

July 21, 2005
11:30 am- 4:30 pm
Holiday Inn Express
Ft. Pierre, South Dakota

Chairperson- Ms. Barb Koenders Vice-chairperson- Ms. Karn Barth

MINUTES

Members Present

Barb Koenders
Bernie Grimme
Connie McClintock
Jim Dunston
Judy Hoscheid
Mark Krogstrand
Greg Riley
Nicole Haneke
Michele Cogley

Members Absent

Bertina Larcher
Todd Christensen
Amanda Lautenschlager
Gail Eichstadt
Greg Cooch
Heather Stettnichs
Karn Barth
Lisa Heckenlaible

Staff Members

Julie Carpenter
Janet Ricketts
Angela Boddicker
Merle Doolittle
Linda Turner
Melissa Flor

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson: _____

Signature	Date
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Call to Order

Barb Koenders, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and made opening remarks.

Approval of Agenda

Jim Dunston moved to accept the agenda for the July 21st meeting as presented, seconded by Mark Krogstrand.

Approval of Minutes from the April 13th Advisory Panel Meeting

The meeting minutes from April 13th, 2005 were reviewed with no additions or corrections noted. Bernie Grimme moved to accept the minutes as written, motion was seconded by Connie McClintock. Motion carried.

Advisory Panel Annual Report

Julie Carpenter, SEP program specialist, presented the panel with the Annual Report 2005. She explained that she would like to give the panel more time to review the report and make comments. Julie requested that the panel hold off on approving the report. It was suggested that, upon reviewing the report, panel members email their

comments to SEP. Changes would be made and the report would be electronically submitted to the panel for final approval.

Election of Officers

Barb Koenders nominated Karn Barth as chairperson. Judy Hoscheid seconded. Motion carried.

Barb Koenders nominated Michele Cogley for vice-chairperson. Jim Dunston seconded. Motion carried.

Eligibility Guide

Julie Carpenter explained that SEP has developed a taskforce to rewrite the Eligibility Guide for Special Education. The whole group was divided into smaller groups to focus on the different eligibility areas. These smaller groups were given the task of getting input from outside organizations and individuals. Each group is to have suggested changes in writing by October 1st. The taskforce will meet again on October 27th to discuss the proposed changes.

The suggested eligibility guide changes will be presented to the Advisory Panel for input. These changes will be revised again after final federal regulations.

Julie explained the need for representation from regular education on the task force. Judy Hoscheid suggested involving someone from mental health as well.

Proposed Federal Regulations

Julie explained that there is still time to comment on the proposed federal regulations. She provided handouts which highlighted some of the changes. One change discussed by the panel involved moving the requirement to begin transition planning for special education students from age 14 yrs to age 16 yrs.

ARSD Rules

Julie presented the panel with the newly adopted Administrative Rules for South Dakota. She explained that Ross Taylor wrote the changes and they were adopted by the Board of Education. These changes only involve key areas. More changes will have to occur after the final federal regulations are implemented.

Angie Boddicker, SEP program specialist, explained that Tim Neyhart, SD Advocacy, had several concerns. The Board of Education (BOE) approved the Administrative Rules despite Tim's concerns. The BOE suggested that SEP staff meet with Tim to get input and decide if the rules need revisions. The panel was provided with a handout developed by Tim addressing these concerns. Angie asked the panel to read through this handout and submit comments to SEP.

SEP Staff

Janet Ricketts, Director of Educational Services and Support, thanked Special Education Program staff for taking on extra duties since Michelle Power's departure. She introduced the newly hired SEP program specialist, Melissa Flor, to the panel. Janet explained that SEP will have a new director soon. They have interviewed for the position.

HOUSSE Rule Changes

Angie discussed the HOUSSE Rule changes with the panel. She explained that the HOUSSE Rules would be presented to the Board of Education in September. She also mentioned that the Praxis exam dates are now posted on the web.

1% and 2% Applications

Linda Turner, SEP program specialist, provided the panel with a handout addressing 1% applications. SD received approval from the federal government for their 1% exemption request. Schools with 200 or less students can count an automatic two students, who took the alternate assessment and scored proficient in AYP, as proficient. SEP

also granted 13 of the exemption requests received from districts across the state.

The 2% Rule is based on a different formula than the 1% Rule. SD applied to receive this flexibility and was granted approval. After running the numbers, however, there aren't any districts in SD that would benefit from this flexibility.

Assessment

Linda Turner explained that there are no major changes in the general assessment (Dakota Step). However, there are many changes concerning the alternate assessment. This assessment is intended for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Students who do not meet the criteria for significantly cognitively disabled can still take this assessment. However, these students would be counted as below basic for AYP purposes.

Linda mentioned the following upcoming training opportunities:

Fall- Extended Standards Roll-out

Jan- Alternate Assessment training

Executive Order

Julie explained that the Advisory Panel Executive Order needs to be updated. The panel needs to include an individual to represent the homeless population.

Yearly Planning

Julie suggested that the panel wait until the next meeting to plan for the upcoming year because of the low meeting attendance. Also, SEP should have a new director by that time. Mark Krogstrand motioned to table the yearly planning until the next Advisory Panel meeting.

Michele Cogley seconded. Motion carried.

Proposed Agenda Items:

Yearly Planning

Project Skills

Upcoming Meeting

October 5th and 6th was recommended as the next meeting date. Jim Dunston suggested that the meeting be held at STAR Academy in Custer with a 1:00 pm start.

Adjournment

Bernie Grimme motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jim Dunston seconded. Motion carried.

